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BREAK THROUGH

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Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

WINTER 1971 - 72

A.M. KIRKPATRICK RETIRES AFTER 18 YEARS JHS SERVICE

 ★★★
By D.G. Lennie
★★★

"The reason for being of the after-care agency is the ex-inmate who walks in the front door. All the resources of the agency should be designed to help this man and in turn there should be a mobilization through the agency of the resources of the broader community inasmuch as they can be made available to bear on this man's needs. It is not merely a matter of sound economic sense that this should be done, but of wise social policy. It is useless to send a man away from society to learn how to live in society without providing a method by which he can re-enter the community with some chance of putting into effect new goals and changed habits."

This was the philosophy that guided A.M. "Kirk" Kirkpatrick through eighteen years as Executive Director of the John Howard Society of Ontario.

It mirrored the concern he felt for the ex-inmate, which helped give him the strength and vision to fight through to fruition many advancements in penal reform and the expansion of the Provincial Society from seven branches to fifteen.

November 24 saw the Provincial Board of Directors of the Provincial and Branch Boards presented Kirk with a color TV set as partial recognition of his years' of service. It was typical of him, he barely mentioned the Society's growth or achievements in his years, but dealt at length and individually with many of the ex-inmates he had come to know and his very strong and warm feeling for them. During these same years, the number of men served jumped dramatically from 1130 to 2258 by the end of 1970.

He has always been one of corporal punishment's strongest and most local opponents. During the Senate's investigation of corporal punishment in 1955, he arranged for a number of ex-prisoners to testify in private before the Senate to the Committee, thus adding first-hand knowledge to other testimony. His writings in many publications promoting the abolition of capital punishment have been widely read and noted by abolitionists. Detention Centre.

During 1961, due primarily to his concern, and reflecting his thinking, the John Howard Society of Ontario sent a brief to the Department of Reform

Institutions of Ontario making two suggestions-- that the Province take over all county jails and begin to consolidate them;

"It seems desirable that some plan of development should be prepared taking into account the shift in penal philosophy, the changes in the correctional field, population growths in the communities and shifts in financial responsibilities between various levels of government. One proposal worthy of examination appears to be a programme of modernization and consolidation of several county jails into area district jails. If complete financial responsibility were assumed by the Province the costs presently born by the counties and cities, namely \$3,067,982.76, would be transferred to direct Provincial outlay with such additional costs as might be reflected in changes of salaries and work hours. The capital outlay for new structures would also depend on Provincial financing since consolidation would broaden the local jurisdictional responsibility."

In July, 1968, the Province took over all responsibility for county jails and in 1971 the first Regional Detention Centre in Napanee was opened amalgamating four county jails. Several suggestions incorporated in this brief pertaining to design and staffing of the Regional Detention Centres have been included in the first completed institution. Pioneer Parole

From his first days with the Society, Kirkpatrick began working towards the establishment of a National Parole System -- talking about the necessity as he saw it from



A.M. Kirkpatrick

platforms and describing it in the various articles he wrote. He was more than pleased when the National Parole Service were formed in 1969. He immediately embarked on a programme to increase the use of parole as a method of release.

In 1960 he wrote: "The release of the offender is also a matter of the utmost importance since he should not be kept in prison for purely punitive reasons when he may in fact, be at the point of readiness to return to social and economic productivity. If a man is kept in prison too long when he is ready to be released, he may become either very greatly embittered and hostile, or on the other hand, extremely dependent and incapable of forming any coherent plan or carrying it out when he returns to the community. Imprisonment should be regarded as the cast placed on the leg to assist in the reunion of shattered bones-- but to be removed as soon as indicated to avoid secondary damage to muscles by atrophy due to disuse."

"Experience has indicated

there should be increased reliance on parole as the method of release. This calls for the development of prediction methods to replace what is essentially a judgment process about the potential an individual has for re-establishment in the community."

In latter years he has been vocal in his opposition to Mandatory Supervision.

For many years he advocated the removal of discriminatory employment practices of the Federal civil services, particularly as they applied to ex-inmates. Recently he saw the removal of the question on both employment application forms regarding criminal record.

He stimulated discussions with the All Canada Insurance Federation and the Solicitor General's Department around the presently operating experiment of bonding ex-inmates. On the basis of a relatively small number of reported applications, it has been very successful.

He was one of the major advocates for the Federal Governments pardon legislation which is now in effect.

- He has in the past and still urges that if new prisons have to be built that they be small with better trained staff, a higher ratio of staff to inmates and that they be located in urban areas. As a member of the Solicitor General's six-man committee on maximum security prison design and programme the worth of his opinions has been recognized and he will have an opportunity to make a valuable contribution to the design of future institutions. He is an opponent to the design of Millhaven and testified to the effect before the joint Parliamentary and Senate Committee previous to Millhaven's construction.

- He has always worked very hard to extend the role of the community in the correctional process and encouraged the use of volunteer groups, particularly in small centres where full time staff would be uneconomic.

- He was also an official consultant to the Canadian Committee on Corrections (The Omet Committee).

It is not the intention of this article to claim Kirkpatrick was solely responsible for all of the above reforms. Throughout his career he has worked very closely with other correctional organizations with common interests, but it is fair to say he was in the forefront of reform and initiated some of them.

He was born in Grenfell, Saskatchewan and educated as a boy in Scotland and New Zealand. He received his B.A. at St. George William College in Chicago and studied under Shaw, one of the first researchers into crime and its causes. From 1930 through 1951, with the exception of six war years in the Navy in the North Atlantic where he commanded a Corvette and a Frigate, he worked for the

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BREAK THROUGH REGRETS DELAY

The staff of BREAK THROUGH wishes inmates, ex-inmates and their families season's wishes and regrets our inability to produce a Christmas edition. With the tight schedules of our editor and reporting staff it just wasn't possible.

Break Through

Published by ex-offenders and serving offenders under the auspices of the John Howard Society of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and published quarterly at the BREAK THROUGH editorial office, 228 Bay St. South, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

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EDITORIALS

A helping hand needed

Since the appearance of BREAK THROUGH in 1969 we have made many overtures to inmates both federal and provincial to send us articles, poems and cartoons, but to date our success rate has been virtually nil.

One of the prime reasons for BREAK THROUGH is to allow inmates a channel of communication to the street through the written word, thought or cartoon.

We have visited many institutions informing inmates about BREAK THROUGH and are pleased to announce that the Ten Plus Fellowship at Millhaven Penitentiary are currently about to sponsor a subscription drive in that institution.

We would like to see other institutions taking a similar attitude to help us attain our goal of 2,000 paid subscribers by late 1972.

We decided to go paid subscription last September and so far have received almost 400 which is insufficient to ensure our continuing.

If any inmate committees feel they would like to assist us with a subscription drive please contact our subscription and circulation manager Gord Vincent, at head office, Hamilton.

Inmate Committees

Since our last edition our reporting staff have been interviewing several inmate groups with regards to the effectiveness of the recently renovated Inmate Committee ideas put forward by the Canadian Penitentiary Service.

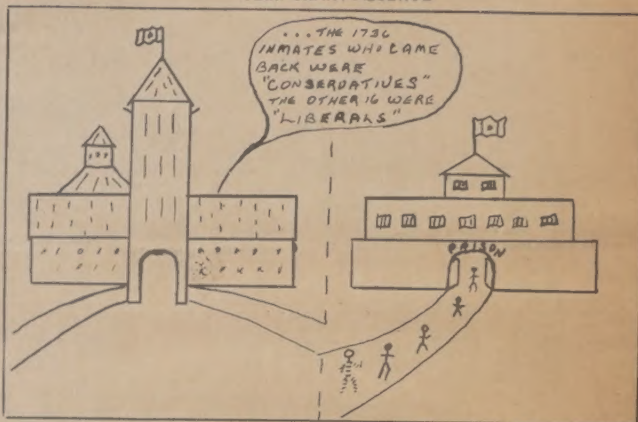
Break Through is very interested in keeping a close watch over these committees since we believe a great deal can be achieved by both sides of the fence in federal institutions working closely with a good and constant rapport.

We hope, by now most institutions in the federal system have elected their committee members and that they are willing to give second thoughts to some of their major doubts concerning these committees.

The inmates we have talked to both individually and collectively seem to think the committees will serve a useful purpose provided there is give and take on both sides of the fence, and as we pointed out in a previous edition, unless director's are prepared to give ear and not say "NO" all the time then they have a good chance of being accepted as a going concern by inmates.

Editorial Page

TEMPORARY ABSENCE



FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE HOUSE.

An open letter to the solicitor-general....

Improvements becoming apparent but many more still necessary

Dear Mr. Goyer,

Since you took over the responsibility for the Canadian Penitentiaries' Service and appointed Commissioner Paul Faguy we note the service now has a dedicated senior level staff members who are working rapidly towards bettering the penal system in areas which need vast improvement.

We approve the initial steps you have taken to bring the penal service into the contemporary world of modern penology where the emphasis is placed on rehabilitation rather than penance and punishment.

However we suggest there are still many dark areas which will still need urgent attention and we are sure you will get to these in good time.

We notice with interest, the establishment of Inmate Committees and the intended community participation of your institutions.

We also note, with great enthusiasm the task force study groups already proceeding with monumental reports and suggestions on maximum security and other areas of interest.

Lessening of tension within any institution is a desirable factor and sensible approaches together with several other innovative programs are already bearing fruit.

Break Through realizes, that to produce a better penal system on both sides of the fence is impossible overnight or even in several decades since we can



not eradicate centuries of prejudice of custodians and inmates. The opinion that a penitentiary is a place of punishment is also very persistent.

Changes are taking place in the mind of the public and this is much more evident by the Kingston Penitentiary riots which brought to the fore the thought that even though inmates are inside for being at variance with society, they should still have some measure of personal dignity and a reasonable standard of living - unless of course you want another and even more radical riot on your hands.

We also realize you are a politician and have to do battle not only with your fellow cabinet

ministers and party but also with the Treasury Board for adequate funds with which to implement your innovative programs. We feel confident, backed by your service colleagues who believe that changes must take place that the present wide chasm existing between custodial staff and inmates can, if not be eradicated at least be narrowed to a more advantageous level. Useful dialogue can take place as is being proved in several institutions.

To the many forward thinking staff in your penitentiary service we can say we look forward to many more changes in the system for the better both for society outside and within the walls.

We look forward to being advised about your plans for betterment of community relations and continued use of the Ten Plus Groups in such places as Millhaven and Collins Bay.

We suggest the recent change of "wardens" to "directors" is of little consequence albeit that it might tidy up your organizational charts adorning most warden's offices.

We hope you can will improve staff training and attract more qualified people, since we believe the day of the "Old Line" custodian should have vanished long ago.

We hope you will study, with continued use the temporary absence program and will not be

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BREAK THROUGH SUBSCRIPTION FORM

I wish to be included as a paid subscriber to BREAK THROUGH effective the September 1971 edition and enclose my cheque/money order for \$2.00. United States and other yearly subscriptions \$3.00.

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Inmate committees now operative but are they functioning well?

By L.E. IRONSIDE

"Are the newly elected penitentiary inmate committees worthwhile?"

"Does the administration look upon them favorably and co-operate or does the administration use it as a tool of getting across more rules and regulations?"

"Will inmate committees in time be allowed to function in major areas within the inmate society without being hamstrung by policy directives?"

These were some of the questions thrown at Kip Kully, spokesman for the Collins Bay Inmate Committee and Abe Doerksen, assistant director (O) & A.

For some time Break Through has been most interested in these inmate committees and decided, as it was beyond our capacity to interview each federal institution to concentrate on a penitentiary where our reporting staff could easily gain permission to interview and which would be available for correction of any errors apparent in the Break Through feature.

Collins Bay was the winner... If one can call it that we believed Collins Bay has a representative inmate population and one which has had some success in the field of inmate-administration relations.

The interview took place in the office of Mr. Doerksen, and unlike most interviews being laboriously taken down by long hand (how many reporters these days can write shorthand?) electronic means were used to ensure accuracy of quotes.

There was no censorship, and apart from the administration taping the interview.

"Merely for reference purposes", Mr. Doerksen remarked.

The policy directive issued by Commissioner Paul Faguy laid down general guidelines for the establishment and continued use of the inmate committees, and in part stated "the purpose of the inmate committees are to provide a channel of communication between inmate bodies and the administration, and also to permit inmates to co-operate and make suggestions on the planning and operation of programs and to carry out assigned responsibilities".

Decided Views Kip Kully made it clear he was only speaking on behalf of the Inmate Committee since on December 23 when the interview with Break Through took place no other committee members were available. Most of them being out on a Christmas pass.

After the policy had been promulgated each range in Collins Bay held elections for inmate committee members, who, in turn elected their own executive. On the administrative side is the director (this is the name for warden), aided by his deputy director and secretary who takes minutes which later are approved and distributed.

Referring to the initial stages of the election Kully said there were several inmates who did not vote, for their own reasons. "There were quite a few," he remarked, "who did not vote. On my range there were three who refused to vote and believe on other ranges also. So it's not really quite a few."

Asked how the inmate committees would explain the functions of their committees, Kully said he would find this quite difficult since he regarded the committee as being an abstract thing at present.

We see the committee as a means of communication between the administration and us," he said, "some kind of dialogue between us so we can understand them out there and their way of

thinking. So far this hasn't happened because we have been coming to the meetings with minor or little things."

"These things are fine but it's not really helping us except we are given a better place to our time."

Referring to eventual effectiveness of the inmate committee Break Through asked how it would be possible to achieve this end through possible expansion of the present policy directive and it was explained the Bay committee felt it was very possible and desirable to have its functions expanded to point where the committee, on both sides will deal with matters of a major nature.

The success of any inmate committee within the federal system depends largely on the attitudes of both sides who must arrive to establish and maintain a two-way channel of communication with meaningful dialogue.

Kully said the inmate committee at the Bay is gradually gaining the respect and confidence of inmates now that they are aware it is not just a gripe session.

"We have been coming to the director with small grievances and things which we want and are having fairly good success. In itself the committee is gaining the respect of the convict and perhaps it could develop into something on a little higher level, where we are actually involved in discussion of policies."

Kully was asked if, in time, the Bay inmate committee could foresee specific responsibilities being delegated to it by the director, perhaps in areas of internal inmate activities apart from sports and recreation.

"Right now these things are pretty well taken care of by the inmates themselves. For instance the sports program, with the assistance of the Recreation Officer is pretty well run by inmates. We pick our own sports and with Mr. Macey's help we pick our equipment we need and the inventorying supplied, but we run it ourselves."

He also made it clear that inmates have their own sports chairman and he has his committee who do everything themselves.

Future plans Commenting on federal penitentiaries policy Kully said the committee would like to see a complete change of thinking to better the system whereby the system no longer punishes a man for his crime, but which helps to rehabilitate a con.

"I don't see, for instance," Kully continued, "the system being beneficial as it now stands. If a person commits a crime he is placed in a penitentiary and one must remember what the word means - a place to do penance and a place to act out punishment."

"This is fine, we have no quarrel with this and maybe a fellow deserves this. But you must remember at the same time this same man is going to be released a better person from a penitentiary."

He said the committee would much rather see a system operating which would see an inmate receiving some kind of help to alleviate the problems he may encounter when he is released.

Referring to the centuries old gap between inmates and custodians Kully said his committee felt that the establishment of the inmate committees will help foster a narrowing of this gap, but one should remember that you cannot eradicate something which has been built up over many centuries and handed down from one inmate generation

to the next.

"Any promotion which will, in part, lessen this gap is bound to be a good thing and although the inmate committee has only been in existence for a short time it has proved beneficial."

Means needed

Speaking on a personal note Kully said he felt if such an inmate committee had been in operation at Kingston Penitentiary whereby some rapport could have existed maybe the riots could have been avoided. As it was, although I was not at K.P. at the time of the riots, the boys didn't have any outlet at all.

Success?

Assessability of the effective ness of inmate committees will be carefully studied by the Bay group, since they believe in both collective and individual evaluation and will, in time make their views known to the inmates and the administration.

The potential in such a committee, as we see it," said Kully, "is so great and untied that it must be given a fair chance to see if it can operate effectively. You have to set some goals. See if they are attainable and if not set some more. Don't assess things by what happened years or centuries ago."

Removal power

Any director, under the policy directive can remove a committee member arbitrarily if such inmate(s) do not actively represent their electorate, or who is found to be using his position for his own ends or who does not adhere to committee rules.

One inmate was removed from the Bay Group but this was done by the director with the approval of the inmate committee since it was for the benefit of the inmates. "We were made known the facts and we agreed he had a case" Kully continued.

The policy directive specifically lays down areas where dialogue can take place. Such as in recreation, entertainment, Christmas celebration arrangements and library facilities.

Abe Doerksen, spokesman for the Bay said the director is wholly behind the inmate committee idea and so far it has worked fairly well.

"Naturally with any new development it must be given sufficient time to develop to a point where dialogue is two-sided and useful to both. The committee is gradually developing into a useful situation whereby the

A Film Review.....

Fortune & Men's Eyes is a move for deep thought

By Gord Vincent

Unbelievable yet in stark reality the gang rape of an inmate happens but only as a far fetched isolated incident in some cobwebbed corner of an uncivilized world, and believe me, when such an incident happens it has to be crudely unconvicted.

The strong prisoner preying on the weak prisoner is common in Canadian prisons. The older prisoner choosing a younger good looking fellow as a partner in sex happens everyday and since the amendments of our Canadian homosexual act, there is no reason for homosexuality to be prohibited, in society or in the prison.

The truth of the movie "Fortune and Men's Eyes" is to show homosexuality does exist in the prisons. And the shocking events

director can relay policy changes to the inmate committee who have a definite responsibility, in turn, to inform their fellow range inmates. In this way full information is available. If some inmates are in doubt about a certain policy then all they have to do is approach their range representative who will ensure he is given ample opportunity to understand the why and where fore of policies affecting him."

One area largely left in limbo until recently was a suggestion by the inmate committee that the committee prepare a booklet for newcomers from the inmates point of view and this was considered by the directors as a good suggestion. It is now operative.

Kully also pointed out that the Bay Inmate committee is most interested in fostering community relations in line with policy directives from the commissioner.

There is quite a dialogue presently existing in the Bay between inmates and outside groups and the committee feels this interaction keeps inmates orientated with society in general.

"Our committee believes an

inmate can widen his thinking more or less, rather than just have a narrow strict line to be an inmate. He now has to deal with people who have no idea what a convict looks like or thinks and they too broaden their perspective. Yes it does help."

A parting comment from the inmate committee spokesman was that there is still some reticence in speaking with the administration at meetings.

"There are still some barriers to be broken down before we can truly arrive at a meaningful dialogue with the administration and these must be broken down since we would like to see the system continued."

"We, on the inmate committee see our effectiveness as one means of possibly lessening the wide chasm between inmates and custodians and of possibly lessening tension among inmates" he concluded.

"Finally" would like to thank Break Through for its interest and assure readers that any rapport between the inmate committee and the director must be a fifty-fifty proposition. We cannot expect a positive reaction from the director unless we give one to him."

KIRKPATRICK RETIRES...

Cont'd from Pg. 1

Canadian Y.M.C.A. For a time he was Boy's Work Secretary in Winnipeg, then General Secretary in Galt, Ontario, followed by Administrative Secretary of the U.W.-Y.M.C.A. in Windsor. It was while he was in Windsor he first became active with the John Howard Society and served on the Board of Directors of the branch in that city.

In 1951 he returned to school at the University of Chicago where he took a Master's Degree at the School of Social Service Administration. During this time, in co-operation with the John Howard Association of Chicago he did a study on police lock-ups in that city which generated the interest for the county jail reform he spear-headed in Ontario. On graduation in 1953 he joined the John Howard Society of Ontario as Executive Director.

During his career he has held many important offices: Vice-President of the American Correctional Association, President of the International Prisoners' Aid Association, Chairman of the Canadian Association of Corrections and

Criminology, Member of the Advisory Committees of the Minister of Correctional Services in Ontario on the Development of the Regional Detention Centres and Citizen Participation, a Member of the Board of Governors of the Canadian Council on Social Development, a Member of the Personnel Committee of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A. of Canada, and a Member of the Area Committee of Legal Aid in Toronto.

Fortunately for the correctional field Kirkpatrick has planned an active retirement. He recently accepted a part-time appointment as Executive Director of the John Howard Society of Canada and is retaining his post as a Director of the Canadian Association of Corrections and Criminology.

The impact this man has made on Corrections in Canada in 13 short years is truly exceptional. The inevitable retreat from some of his many activities is regrettable and he will be missed very much - particularly by the John Howard Society of Canada.

"Breakthrough" joins with his many friends in wishing him a long, active and happy retirement.

crammed into a 90 minute movie have astonished and will continue to astonish many people. But thank God, the more drastic scenes of the movie are not an everyday occurrence. Though it happens, it is an impulsive affair that is very rare.

A major Canadian newspaper commented the movie was very funny with an earthy honesty. Acceptable...as the review was obviously written by a square john who quite likely had no compassionate feelings for the less fortunate.

What is so hilarious about a fellow being "gang splashed"... consistently raped by co-inmates while guards disregarded the pleading cries of agony. What could be more comical than screws beating an inmate to

death or using sadistic treatment towards a suicide. No...No...No...A society or two may have been comical but to base the entire film as being funny is ludicrous.

Yes, no doubt about it, homosexuality is in our prisons but more so as a personal relationship. One has the right to choose whatever course he may by accepting or rejecting the advances, though the rejection usually involves beatings.

Fortune and Men's Eyes is a movie to view but don't be gullible enough to believe that gross rapes of an inmate occur every day, it couldn't happen in most of our Canadian institutions though some may be exempt from close scrutiny of prison guards.

If politicians have "facts" regarding Geoffroy case say so

Politicians, who for political gain, or who are just playing political games should at least show some awareness of the social consequences of their political thrusts and paries.

Over the past months the Federal Penitentiary Service has introduced a system of temporary absence for inmates of penitentiaries. The program has functioned extremely well with a failure rate less than 1%, but the actions of one inmate Yves Geoffroy, of St. Vincent de a situation in which a few political spit-balls have been created.

GEOFFROY CASE

In brief, Geoffroy, was serving a sentence for the murder of his wife, was allowed a temporary absence during which he married his mistress. The best man at the wedding was Raymond Denis and the newly weds are now enjoying an A.W. O.L. honeymoon.

Perhaps the whole case does stink. Perhaps there was some hanky - panky, but unless the politicians who are raising a hue and cry have more facts on the case than can be found in the news media, the demands for the resignation of the solicitor-general and a royal commission into the case are pre-mature and nothing but political spit-balls.

Certainly the case requires investigation. Perhaps some of the officials will be found to have turned a blind eye or an open hand-but until the facts are known - demands for resignations

and royal commissions condemn not just one inmate, one official or one politician, but an entire correctional program and possibly even other progressive penal programs presently in the formative stages.

SAFE PLAYGROUND

What is even more disturbing is the fact that penal matters are a safe area for political games. Prisoners can't vote. It is an area of almost complete irresponsibility for the politician. All he has to do is to please the voting citizen - the majority of whom couldn't care less what happens to an individual once he is safely locked up.

One other factor that appears to have been ignored in the temporary absence program is the fact that out of 1,752 inmates released from federal penitentiaries over the Christmas season, 1,736 returned to prison voluntarily. Over 1,700 inmates were free in the community, eating in restaurants, riding in trains and buses, mixing with the very people who demand their incarceration as a protection against such brutal beasts who violate society's laws. Yet these beasts kept a trust, they displayed honesty as human beings, human beings with honor. Why do we spend \$10,500 per year per inmate to keep these people where they are?

POLITICAL PLUMS

That is another political question! Why are prisons built where they are? Warkworth, a medium security prison housing 450 inmates was built in 1967 in

.....well it shows on some road maps.....Warkworth. A hamlet located somewhere between Brighton and Campbellford, possesses a prison larger than the hamlet and the prison's residents have wives, children, families and friends in the Toronto-Hamilton area. It certainly wasn't built there to facilitate family visits, nor to provide an immediate source of trained staff (some staff must travel over 30 miles to get to work). It certainly wasn't located very conveniently for access to professional consultation from doctors, psychiatrists, etc. and gradual release programs or day parole opportunities are virtually non-existent. The price of land couldn't be a factor as there is land of similar price closer to larger cities. The location was a completely political decision to butter - up voters in the immediate riding. Not one factor in the location of Warkworth Penitentiary was in anyway related to the rehabilitation of the inmates. And some people wonder why our prison system doesn't work! The recent decision by the present solicitor general to hold up the building of the Maximum Security Institution in Mission B.C. may indicate a halt to such political manipulation of the prison system.

REHABILITATION IN THE COMMUNITY

It is political decisions such as the location of Warkworth which have to a large extent necessitated the commencement of the temporary absence

program. Rehabilitation, the best form of deterrence against crime does not occur in prison. The offender has difficulty living in the community and that is where he will learn to master those difficulties - not surrounded by a bunch of cows and daisies in Warkworth.

Not all prisoners can be allowed the privilege of temporary absence; some are dangerous, some are impulsive, some cannot honor trust shown in them. Perhaps the most successful aspect of the temporary absence program has been the competent screening of applicants by penitentiary service staff. A success rate of 99% is a jolly good show.

SOCIAL CONSCIENT

Are there any members of Parliament who are concerned about people? Are there any who care what happens to prison inmates?

Are any members aware of the desperate need for the rapid improvement in the penal system? Do Members of Parliament realize the powerful pressure which has been placed on the penitentiary service staff through the political games around the Geoffroy case?

Is there just one member of the opposition parties with sufficient social conscience to stand up in the House and commend the Solicitor-General for the phenomenal success of the temporary absence program. Is there just one of you with sufficient guts!

S-G claims pens catching up with clothes and hairstyles

Inmates of Canada's federal penitentiaries are catching up to the 1970's in clothes and hair styles, Solicitor General Jean-Pierre Goyer announced recently.

"Men who had been in prison for several years have difficulty in re-adjusting to life on the outside. The new styles of clothing and grooming will give them a greater feeling of remaining part of society and will help their self confidence when they leave prison," Mr. Goyer said. "The uniformity of style and color of clothes and hairstyles creates an objectionable oppressive climate. We must put an end to it."

New directives on clothing, one of a series of orders issued recently by Commissioner of Penitentiaries Paul Faguy, aimed at humanizing the federal prison system, will go into effect almost immediately. It provides for new leisure clothes for inmates to wear when they are participating in the evening recreational, educational, visiting and other social or community-oriented programs. Casual slacks and sports shirts in complementing colors of bronze, graphite or beige will enable inmates to change from their working clothes when they return from workshops and other duties. The leisure clothes will become available in the late Fall,

This new leisure wear will add \$60,000 a year to the annual \$1,167,000 clothing budget for the approximately 7,500 inmates of federal institutions.

In addition, colored T-shirts will be available for purchase at the Inmate Canteen with the proceeds of the allowance which each inmate receives for his daily work.

Commissioner Faguy indicates that the present drab working clothes which inmates have worn for all occasions will also be replaced in the near future with clothes of a more pleasing aspruce green color, better quality and design and longer durability. It is expected that the longer life of these clothes will represent a saving to the Penitentiary Service, in the long run, of approximately 35% of previous costs. The new work clothes will only come into use as the garments now in use wear out, however. The work clothing, of fortrel and cotton permapress fabrics, will be manufactured in institutional industrial shops and production will commence as soon as the materials now in stock are depleted and the new fabrics are received.

New hairstyles for inmates are also being introduced. The men who previously had their hair trimmed to a standard 1 1/2 inches on the top and 1/2 inch on

the sides, may now allow it to conform more to the norms existing in the community. In a further effort to make the inmates' return to the society an easier transition, the men may, during the 30 days prior to their release, have their hair, mustache or beard grow to what

Temporary absences totalling 20,708 were granted to federal inmates during 1970-71 and more than 10,000 visitors saw inside the walls.

Solicitor-General's Report.

According to the 1970-71 Solicitor General's Annual Report inmates were broken down in the following levels of security: Maximum 35%, Medium 51% and minimum 13%.

No matter what the staff of a prison may do on behalf of the inmates, as long as they have no contacts with the real world, the obstacles of his adjustment and rehabilitation are great."

Norman Fenton in

The Prisoner's Family.

Extract from the Federal commissioner of penitentiaries report for 1970-71 - "A proposal for the development of a physical fitness program for correctional staff is being prepared, in recognition of the relationship between physical fitness and mental alertness.

ever length they prefer.

The new changes in dress apply only to male prisoners. Female inmates in Canada's only Women's Prison at Kingston have had liberal dress regulations for the last ten years and make their own clothes in the styles they prefer.

GOING UP IN SMOKE?



Our editor was given an extra length cigar as a Christmas present by the residents at The Crossroads Society House, Kingston. At last report old Tin ribs was back to normal.

Break Through staff photo

Twelve ex-inmates hired under Initiatives Program

Twelve ex-inmates have been hired by the John Howard Society of Hamilton through a Local Initiative Program financed by the Government of Canada. These ex-inmates will work as case aides to assist in the process of obtaining suitable employment and living accommodation for newly released ex-inmates.

When the Federal Government announced the Local Initiative Program, the John Howard Society submitted an application and by December 15th, 1971, the project was underway.

The John Howard Society of London also has a program operating and the John Howard Society of Toronto are waiting for a decision on a program. All projects employ ex-inmates although each project varies in its nature and purpose.

The ex-inmates working on the Hamilton program can be divided into four groups. The first being a carpenter and his helper who will be employed to perform necessary renovations to the J.H.S. offices to provide suitable accommodation for the program staff. The second group six in number, will visit the employers to discuss personnel policy on the hiring of ex-inmates and to ascertain job qualifications for positions in each company. These six men will then commence to take newly released ex-inmates to the firms they have visited and when employment is established will follow up with both ex-inmate and employer. Should the ex-inmate develop personal or employment problems he will be referred to the trained counsellors of the J.H.S.

The third group of program staff consists of three ex-inmates who will prepare a list of suitable accommodation for ex-inmates in Hamilton. When a newly released ex-inmate appears at the J.H.S. in Hamilton, he will be met by one of these men, invited for coffee and a chat until a J.H.S. staff member is available for an interview. Should the individual require a room, then the program staff member will assist him to find suitable accommodation.

The fourth group consists of a huge total of one, one sweet young lady to type letters, complete filing cards and to keep track of who went where and when.

BENEFITS

It is anticipated that by May 31st, 1972, the date the program must terminate that the J. H. S. will possess a complete documentation of employment contacts to continue to place the

ex-inmates in jobs over the next few years. Not only will ex-inmates be finding employment through the program, but accurate documentation could provide useful information to prison services in any future revision of inmate training programs.

Newly released ex-inmates will if they wish, have the friendship and acceptance of the ex-inmates on program staff during the first few lonely months of return to the community. The project is designed to let the newly released individual not only feel accepted but wanted by his home community.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the whole program is that our twelve ex-inmates will be meeting employers through out all of Hamilton as representatives of all ex-inmates. Fear of the unknown will be removed and public education will commence by perhaps the best method known - face to face interaction. Employers will learn about ex-inmates but already the staff of the program are learning about employers. As one program staff said yesterday,

"You know, he had a few prejudices, but basically he's a pretty decent guy."

Rocky Thibeau shines in Cuckoo's Nest



COLLINS BAY INMATE APPLAUDED

Rocky Thibeau of Collins Bay Institution recently received laudatory comments from drama critics for his outstanding performance in the Bay Drama Club's performance of One Flew Over The Cuckoos Nest at the Grand Theatre, Kingston.

This was the second time Rocky has been front centre having performed creditably in a former production at the Bay entitled A Criminal Record. Break Through staff photo



The Circle Group at The Bay recently celebrated their first anniversary with invited guests. The group is shown here with their guests. No fellow the lady in the centre foreground is NOT a Bay inmate even though she would have been a decided asset. As usual hamster Rocky Thibeau (holding cup, second from end row.) manages his hammy smile. Break Through staff photo

THE MEN THAT DON'T FIT IN

There's a race of men that don't fit in,
A race that can't stay still;
So they break the hearts of kith and kin,
And they roam the world at will.
The range the field and they brave the flood,
And they climb the mountain's crest;
There's the curse of the gypsy blood,
And they don't know how to rest.

If they just went straight they might go far;
They are strong and brave and true;
But they're always tired of things that are,
And they want the strange and new.
They say, "Could I find a proper groove,
What a deep mark I could make."
So they chop and change, and each fresh move,
Is only a fresh mistake.

And each forgets, as he trips and runs,
With a brilliant, fitful pace,
It's the steady, quiet, plodding ones
Who win the lifelong race.
And each forgets that his youth has fled,
Forgets his prime has past,
'Til he stands one day with a hope that's dead,
In glare of truth at last.

He has failed, he has failed; he has missed his chances;
He has just done things by half.
Life's been a jolly good joke on him;
And now is the time to laugh.
Ha, Ha! He is one of the Legion Lost;
He was never meant to win;
He's a rolling stone, and it's bred in the bone;
He's a man who won't fit in.

Farms will be closed in Province

The Department of Correctional Services today announced that most farming operations of correctional centres throughout the Province will be discontinued in the near future.

Elimination of the major portion of farming operations will be effected at the following correctional centres: Burwash, Burtch, Guelph, Rideau and Thunder Bay.

In the past the farms at these institutions provided training for inmates who might wish to seek employment on farms upon their release. The value of this type of training in rehabilitating inmates has been minimized in recent years by the decline in

employment opportunities in the agricultural field due to increasing mechanization, and the consolidation of small farms into larger ones.

The Department will follow the advice of the Department of Agriculture as to how to best dispose of its beef and dairy herds to the benefit of the farming community in Ontario.

Those correctional centres which have operated market gardens to produce vegetables for departmental use will continue to do so, while staff from the farming operations will be considered for transfer to other positions consistent with their qualifications.

Goderich Jail to be eradicated

The Department of Correctional Services today announced that the Goderich Jail will be closed in the near future.

The decision has been taken following a recommendation by the Department's Task Force which has been reviewing the operation of all jails since the Department assumed responsibility for the administration of county and municipal jails in 1968.

As a result of the work of the Task Force to date, four old jails have been replaced by a modern Regional Detention Centre; two other such centres are under construction and a fourth is being planned. These four modern facilities will replace nine of the outdated jails of the Province.

The Task Force's recommendation concerning the

Goderich Jail will result in the closing of one of the oldest and smallest jails in the Province. Though small, the jail has operated consistently less than its capacity and the cost of renovations to the 130-year old structure would be prohibitive. With the closing of the jail, prisoners previously housed there will, in future, be held in the jails at Walkerton and Stratford. Staff presently working at the Goderich Jail will be offered positions elsewhere in the Department.

According to latest information the federal penitentiary service used the services of 22 full time psychologists.

Improvements becoming apparent

Cont'd from Pg. 2

deterred by the disappearance of some inmates. By and large the program has proved itself to be greatly successful and your current statistics indicate the non-return rate is less than one percent across your entire system.

Surely this must mean some thing?

Finally, Mr. Goyer, we

commend to your attention again the words of George Bernard Shaw who wrote years ago:

"If you are to punish a man retributively, you must injure him. If you are to reform him - you must improve him."

And men are not improved by Statistics.

Sincerely,
Break Through Staff
January, 1972.

Drumheller opens golf course for public use

Inmates of the federal medium - security institution at Drumheller, Alberta, are operating a golf driving range which provides a popular source of recreation for residents of the community.

The driving range, opened for public use recently at the Drumheller Institution, is the latest of a series of projects introduced by Warden P.M. J. Justus and correctional staff to involve the institution population in close and continual communication with the nearby "free" community. Although the project was organized by the institution's administration, the golf driving range is operated, managed and financed by the inmates themselves. Profits from the operation will accrue to the Inmate's Welfare Fund and will be used to the benefit of all inmates of the institution.

As yet the driving range is not used by the inmates themselves. A modest charge (50 cents for 50 golf balls and the optional use of a driver,) and little competition

closer than Calgary, 88 miles south-west, the range is expected to be a commercial success. In the first week of operation, the revenue, including sales of soft drinks, was about \$100.

"The Drumheller driving range is an example of the way criminal offenders can work toward their own rehabilitation if given opportunity, responsibility and encouragement," Solicitor General Jean-Pierre Goyer said recently. "The men at Drumheller can be very proud of this achievement and I wish them all success."

Relations between the Drumheller community and the staff and inmates of the federal correctional institution have been very close and informal. A number of inmates work daily at jobs in the community, returning to the institution at the end of the day. Drumheller residents participate enthusiastically in institution recreational programs and inmates respond by joining voluntarily in community sports events and other activities.

Collins Bay students....

It's off to school we go

Inmates at Collin's Bay Penitentiary, Kingston are being offered the opportunity to enrol as students in formal educational programs of St. Lawrence Community College.

Under an \$10,000 contract recently concluded between the Kingston community college and the Canadian Penitentiary Service as many as 400 inmates over the next 12 months will be either improving their academic education or taking either of two post - secondary courses in business administration and polytechnics.

The penitentiary "campus" of St. Lawrence Community College will offer the same teaching, counselling and guidance services as those offered to regular full time students of the college.

Inmates will be able to take education at any level between the lowest primary grade to high school graduation while serving their penitentiary sentences and to continue their education at a community college after release. Certificates will be awarded for completion of the two post-secondary courses which will

train inmates for employment in business and in the engineering field as technicians.

Bringing the resources of the community colleges to penal inmates is the outcome of a two year study carried out by the Canadian Penitentiary Service and Dean B. F. Curtis of Algonquin College, Ottawa. If the program being introduced at Collin's Bay Penitentiary is successful it will be expanded to bring the other community colleges into a partnership with the Penitentiary Service in providing a wider variety of educational opportunities for inmates.

Last winter a limited post - secondary educational program was offered in Collin's Bay Penitentiary by St. Lawrence College.

Goal of the penitentiary educational program is to give inmates the training and skills that will enable them to find steady and remunerative employment in a modern industrial society and thus maximize their prospects for completely rehabilitating themselves.



Bobby Greer, a member of the Circle Group at Collins Bay is shown above presenting a wallet to Mike Nolan in appreciation for his efforts on behalf of the group since it was formed a year ago.

Break Through Staff Photo

Maine State Prison provides excellent source of funds

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By Joan Cook

Thomaston, Maine - Thousands of tourists pass through this picture - postcard New England village (population 3900) each year. But it is the unexpected sight of the Maine State Prison Showroom, an adjunct of Maine's only maximum security prison, which really catches the eyes of tourists along Route 1, in these otherwise pastoral surroundings.

GIFTS & TOYS

The showroom contains home furnishings, gifts and toys made by the inmates for sale to the public. Inmates also operate the shop, under prison supervision and keep 100 per cent of the selling price of articles made on the premises. Last week, the cost of materials.

"There may be small novelty shops in other prisons making trinkets, but I don't know of another operating like this one in the country," Warden Allan L. Robbins said.

He said he thought the program an excellent one since it provides an opportunity for meaningful work (an inmate can earn up to \$1,800 a year) and also serves as a training program.

"In the old days, after a man finished shoveling snow off the walk, he'd have to do it all over again just to keep busy," the warden explained. "Through this program the men are trained in various aspects of making furniture, doing cabinet work, learning finishing and refinishing."

VISITORS

Visitors from around the world as well as the 50 states, have come to browse in the 40-by-60 foot showroom. Last week, 40 pieces of furniture and 383 hand made articles were on display. Prices are maintained at a level comparable to those outside, and the workmanship is painstaking.

Among the anchor lamps, the hand carved pheasant lamps and the figures of swooping gulls is one of the bestiary, a fishing schooner, Newfoundland Jack, entirely made by hand with tiny birch dowels and an inky pine hull.

Made by a "lifer" the boat was originally sold by itself but customers thought so much of it they wanted a glass case to keep it in. Now boat and case are sold together for \$36.50.

So far this year, 21 men have already reached their \$1,800 quota and another 25 are on the brink, Officer Oberlock said, adding that of 339 inmates, 241 take part in the workshop program.

The eighth grade is the average school experience, and while sometimes an article may seem simple and rough, its a real achievement to the man who made it.

TOTAL SALES

Sales total about \$500,000 a year and are about evenly divided between the furniture and the gifts and novelties. The prisoners, Mr. Oberlock said, "can send the money home, to a bank or have it credited to the prison commissary where they are allowed to draw up to \$7 twice a week."

The prisoners can buy patterns and tools at the canteen, loans are available for their purchases from the Inmate Benefit Fund, which includes the proceeds from the showroom soda machine and various programs put on by the inmates.

When a prisoner submits an article for sale, the store manager, a prison officer, may advise him on certain changes to make the product more saleable but the prisoner is under no obligation to accept the advice. "We work by trial and error," Mr. Oberlock explained. "If a

fellow sends something out, having refused to make any changes and the article sits on the shelves, and nobody buys it after a while, he's going to change it himself."

COMPETITION

Competition between the men is strong, and sometimes inmates get anxious if sales are slow.

"They are afraid their work isn't being displayed properly or something like that - especially since they are out of touch with the outside - and need to be reassured that this isn't so," Mr. Oberlock said.

Last week, for the first time in memory, visitors were turned away from the showroom and a sign posted saying "Closed until further notice." As the result of a strike among the kitchen

workers, the men had been locked in their cells as a safety precaution, and the showroom shut down.

"I should have figured 'it out,' said Daniel Irvine, police chief of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, who had stopped with his wife on the way home from their vacation. "We've been here before, and it was only an hour out of the way, so we decided to take a chance, even though I'd heard about the strike."

Inside the window, along with some fine pieces of furniture and three small television sets that monitor the showroom, some wag had put a fishbowl two-thirds full of water and bearing the following legend:

"Invisible tropical fish, imported from the Amazon River in South America. Please do not excite the fish!"

Retiring judge condemns stress on rehabilitation

Too much stress is being put on rehabilitation of criminals and too little on protection of the public, says Mr. Justice T. A. Dohm, who is retiring from the British Columbia Supreme Court.

Mr. Justice Dohm, who leaves the bench to take up new duties next week as president of the Vancouver Stock Exchange, said in an interview the national parole board is far too lenient.

"It is wasting time and money and breath talking rehabilitation to some people," he said. A trial judge should be asked for his opinion before an offender is paroled.

Mr. Justice Dohm said the only answer to violent crime is incarceration. He criticized "do-gooders" who place emphasis on rehabilitation of criminals and forget about the brutality inflicted on their victims.

Psychiatrist says prison makes mentally ill worse

A Toronto psychiatrist said at the week-end that mentally ill criminal offenders usually are sentenced to prison, where they are unable to receive adequate psychiatric care.

Dr. Murray Wilson, speaking at a panel discussion on the final day of a two-day conference on correctional services, said that being confined to prison makes such mentally ill persons even more ill.

Dr. P. F. Kelly, a Kingston psychiatrist who does prison work, said that psychiatrists are able to "do little treatment in a prison atmosphere."

"IF YOU'RE denying them two major factors of human nature - aggression and sexuality - then you're creating a sick atmosphere."

Dr. Kelly said the prison system is built essentially to punish, confine and destroy prisoners.

Dr. B. A. Boyd, superintendent of the Mental Health Hospital at Penetanguishene, which assesses and treats patients referred there by Ontario courts, said that "fitness to stand trial is quite different from insanity as a defence."

He said that insanity applies to the state of mind at the time of the offence, while fitness to stand trial involves having the mental ability to instruct counsel and understand the court proceedings.

"WE SEE many patients that we think could be properly called insane," he said, "but are fit to stand trial."

"We see patients who are quite certifiably mentally ill, yet are fit to go through the criminal process, being convicted and sentenced."

Dr. Boyd said he hopes to see a change in the law which would allow a judge to convict and sentence a mentally ill person directly to hospital for treatment.

He said some judges are getting around the present law and are in effect sentencing criminals to Penetanguishene rather than prison.

He said this is done by first arranging with the hospital to accept them, having a psychiatrist declare them in need of treatment, and attaching to the warrant of commitment the judge's recommendations that the prisoner be sent to mental hospital for treatment.

BETWEEN THE BARS

By Les Ironside



In the last Break Through I gave a Joyceville Farm Annex inmate who made himself one of the top fly (fishing that is) makers in North America a write-up at his request.

Well, this certain gentleman is no longer with us preferring, so I understand from my contacts in the U.S., to live the life of ease courtesy of the State of California.

Anyone wishing to order files from the gentleman will have to write to the California State Corrections Department. But I doubt if they will allow Mr. Hollands to answer as readily as the Canadian Service has done.

This guy came in under believing he was going straight. It just goes to show.....and I needn't repeat what I am thinking about this fly type. I have no doubt it will be a long time before he sees Canada again. Unless of course California is kind enough to let him go.

Some of my Kingston confidantes asked me if I was aware of a SERVING inmate actually walking into the Kingston Staff College and giving lectures on inmate behaviour and psychology to rookie custodial office. I think you guys are putting me on what? Actually it is true. But for reasons I kept very quiet.

I really must rake up my golf club, now that the lads out at the Drumheller Holiday Camp have opened a golf course. It received a commendation from the S-G so it must really be something.

How about an invitation chaps? Like around this summer?

One penal press publication which I always enjoy reading is the SIDELINER from Peace River. It is a good thick paper albeit with reproduction a little on the thin side. How about me sending you some duplicating ink fellows? Keep up the good work.

A nice little tidbit contained in the recent report from the commissioner of fed joints is the item suggesting that fed correctional officers will have to shape up - physically that is - and what a dandy that scheme would be. Can you guys around Collins Bay imagine what would happen to some of your dear old pals if they had to get down to even a modified 5 BX program?

My congratulations to the Ten Plus Fellowship up there at Mill haven's Happy Home. I was invited (at long last and with thanks to the Millhaven chaplains) to attend a meeting and discuss Break Through. It was a very worthwhile trip since this group is very interested in conducting a subscription drive among fellow inmates to help Break Through keep going. The meeting doesn't follow the usual dull pattern. Interest is abounded and guys don't just walk in there and join. A vote is taken before hand. This results in a dedicated team of members who do much good work within the confines of their group and who are currently embarking on some very ambitious research programs dealing with criminology and penology.

I am, I believe the only press member allowed so far into Mill haven but I was invited in a private capacity so fellow scribes don't ask me for details of the joint. It's like any other bucket, with a few refinements.

If you guys up at Landry Crossing Camp and Beaver Creek are still alive and kicking does your invitation for a visit still hold good? If so advise by return mail. Will visit in near future.

I saw Fortune & Men's Eyes some weeks ago and must admit 98% of it is simply too far fetched to be real. Do any inmates know of a joint which is even similar to the one portrayed. I have asked hundreds of inmates and ex and none of them have a good word for the film. Yet the public lapped it up as being the cat's whiskers. Pity isn't it.

I see yet another regular is on the loose. This time Normie Mc Caud from Joyceville. Sheldon McNeill a top reporter on the Kingston Whig Standard did a first rate article on Normie boy and judging from it this guy McCaud has the cheek of the devil.

Imagine getting a cop to help him haul away loot from a job.

That's what our boy did and the cop looked him. Where ever you are chum.....start worrying.

R.E. Fox appointed assistant co-ordinator of programs

The Department of Correctional Services announces the appointment of R.E. Fox as Assistant Co-ordinator of Community Programs. Mr. Fox formerly held the position of Supervising Probation Officer for Toronto with the Department of Justice.

Mr. Fox brings to his new position over thirty years experience in probation services, having held a number of supervisory positions with the Ontario Probation Services and the English Probation Services. Mr. Fox will assist Mr. Edgar W. Epp, Co-ordinator of Com-

munity Programs in the further development of citizen participating in corrections, and the Department's temporary absence program.

Mr. Fox is a board member of the Ontario Association of Corrections and Criminology, a founding member of the John Augustus Society and an advisor to the Probation Aid Committee of the Toronto Rotary Club.

He is the holder of a Diploma in Social Work from the Social Science Department of Birmingham University. Mr. Fox is married and has two sons and two daughters.

The Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs is undertaking a comprehensive review of parole in Canada. The purpose of this enquiry by the Senators will be to ascertain if parole is a useful and successful procedure in connection with custody and rehabilitation. If it is, can it be improved? Are procedures in administration adequate? Is there room for improvement? In other words we would like to have a close look at the whole administration

and operation of parole with a view also of educating the public.

I anticipate we will hear the views of the Solicitor General's Department, the National Parole Service and other interested organizations. As a member of the Committee, I ask any person with ideas on parole to write me. You are most closely affected, you have a great deal at stake. From experience I know you also have constructive ideas and suggestions worthy of consideration.

I invite any man or institution committee to contact me if you would like to assist in this enquiry. I shall be pleased to supply further information and assistance. Your letters to me are privileged. They should be addressed, postage free, to:

With kind regards to you all. Yours very truly, Earl A. Hastings.

Senator Earl A. Hastings
The Senate
Ottawa, Canada

Goyer: Judges need help in sentencing

Judges need guidelines and expert help in determining the correct sentence for persons convicted of crime, solicitor general Jean-Pierre Goyer said at the weekend.

Mr. Goyer was speaking at the final session of a two-day conference on correctional services, sponsored by the University of Toronto.

He said a prisoner's chance for rehabilitation are lessened if a judge imposes too severe a sentence.

"I think that rehabilitation begins with the sentencing process," he said. "We should completely review the process. I believe the way we are doing it today is not really adequate."

MR. GOYER spoke of an experiment in Holland in

which a group of social workers, psychologists and psychiatrists make recommendations to the judge about where a convict should go and what his treatment or rehabilitation program should be.

"I think this is a beginning," said the solicitor general.

"I think it is time surely to have guidelines. Maybe the judges themselves can get together and decide guidelines they can suggest to government. Maybe it is a question that will be considered by the Law Reform Commission of Canada."

Mr. Goyer also said that his department needs more qualified personnel to help with prison reform. He said most criminology graduates from Canadian universities prefer to do research rather than to work with prisoners.

MR. JUSTICE Donald Morand, of the Ontario Supreme

Court, said during an afternoon panel session that judges must retain the right to decide what sentences to impose.

But, he said, he was sure judges would welcome assistance from social scientists in reaching these decisions.

Extract from 1970-1971 Report of the Federal Commissioner of Penitentiaries - "...there is no ceiling on educational opportunities within the system. Provisions exist for students to advance from elementary to university levels."

Hire an ex-inmate

Ex-inmates can be workers. More often than not you will find they work harder than the average person without a criminal record since they have to prove themselves in a situation where no ordinary employee would do so.

With one black against them ex-inmates want to give more of themselves to prove to any employer they can work honestly and fairly for their employers. A large number of ex-inmates lack the work skills normally developed by a non record holding employee; but given the opportunity, through experience and a learning situation, their drive to succeed makes them good students and hopefully skilled and honest workers.

The ex-inmate knows a compatible work record with one company will go a long way towards keeping his job and eventually gaining more definite employment.

One thing an ex-inmate knows is that no matter how long he is on the street going straight he will always know he is on a trial basis for his entire working career.

Recently two ex-inmates were hired temporarily by a major oil company. The outcome was highly successful and quite a surprise to the company personnel manager.

In fact the personnel manager advanced the ex-inmates a large sum of money and if they fouled up the responsibility for re-payment to the company, it would come out of the manager's pocket.

"The boys did a fine job and I have no hesitation in recommending them to any future employers," he said in an interview.

Project D.A.R.E. started

Ontario Correctional Services Minister C. J. S. Apps recently announced plans to expand the Department's outdoor education program for boys admitted to training schools, by the establishment of Project D.A.R.E., Wendigo Lake.

The first project D.A.R.E. camp was opened last summer at Portage Lake, near Grundy Provincial Park. D.A.R.E. stands for development through adventure, responsibility, and education. The plans announced today by Mr. Apps call for the conversion of a forestry camp operated by the Department at Wendigo Lake into a camp suitable for the requirements of a Project D.A.R.E. program. The Project D.A.R.E. concept resulted from successful experimentation by the Department in recent years with an outdoor program for boys aimed at helping them to become aware of their potential, to develop self-confidence, a sense of purpose, and a desire for achievement.

The new Project D.A.R.E. facility will be located at Wendigo Lake, seven miles east of South River and approximately thirty-five miles south of North Bay. Renovations to the existing camp and the addition of a classroom and other facilities will commence shortly and the new Project D.A.R.E. is expected to be in operation within the next four to five months. Both Project D.A.R.E. programs will operate on a year-round basis.

Present staff at Wendigo Lake Forestry Camp have been assured of continuing employment within the Department.

The D.A.R.E. program is divided into three phases consisting of outdoor education, work projects, and vigorous outdoor adventure, or what might be described as "action-orientated education." Each student spends approximately four to five weeks in each phase of the program.

In the first phase the youth is introduced into an outdoor education program which will provide him with a better understanding of his natural environment. In the second phase the youth makes use of his skills by putting them to work in a practical way through involvement in special work projects which are directed toward providing service to others. In the third and final phase the student becomes involved in the vigorous, physical experience of various outdoor activities.

In addition to the heavy emphasis on outdoor activity, the youths will be involved in a special academic program, using the classroom as a resource centre and workshop for the various projects assigned.

Mr. Apps said that the Department is confident that the D.A.R.E. program offers tremendous potential for helping certain types of boys who are admitted to training schools.

J.H.S.

Promotes executive assistant to succeed retired director



A.K. Couse

The Board of Directors have announced the appointments of A. K. Couse as Executive Director and Gordon C. MacFarlane as Associate Director.

Keith Couse, born in Cooks town, Ontario, joined the Society in 1954 and received his Master's of Social Work degree from the University of Toronto in 1960. He held various positions in the Toronto and Provincial Offices and was appointed Associate Director in 1967. In 1970 he received a diploma in Criminology from Cambridge University England and has been a part-time lecturer in Corrections with the University of Toronto, Extension Department. He is married with two children.

Gordon MacFarlane, born in

Wapella, Saskatchewan, spent two years with that Province's Department of Social Welfare followed by a period as a Probation Officer and then Treatment Supervisor at Regina Gaol. He joined the John Howard Society in 1961 as Toronto Office Supervisor. In 1968 he was seconded to the Federal Government's Foreign Aid program and served for three years as Assistant Director of Training (Social Welfare) in the Tanzanian Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development in East Africa. He is married with three children.

At the same time the Board announced the appointment of D. B. Irwin as Executive Secretary of the Toronto Office and D.R. Kennedy as Supervisor of the Toronto office.



Judging by the look on one inmate's face at the recent Circle group first anniversary at the Bay it could be that the guy with the fuzz is telling (since he is a National Parole Board employee in Kingston), that a parole might be imminent. But then again.....!!! Note the wry smile on the inmate next to Bobby Greer.

Break Through staff photo

Notice to subscribers and inmate committees

Our circulation manager has received several complaints concerning non-delivery of BREAK THROUGH with certain institutions and we would like to be made aware of any other penal libraries or inmates who are not receiving Break Through.

Our mailing list, apart from paid subscribers includes two copies of each edition to every institutional library both federal and provincial and they are certainly mailed.

Break Through has recently completed an interview with a selected representative of the Collins Bay Penitentiary Inmate Committee and would like to receive information, in written form of comments of other institutions to keep aware of the effectiveness of these committees.

If you have any comments to make for BREAK THROUGH, please forward your comments to our editor.

Our next edition will be late March and the deadline for copy to be included will be March 5th at our Hamilton office.

Sincerely
The Editor.

Guest Editorial

Do our prisons make criminals?

We cannot ignore the fact that the primary goal of any system of criminal control and correction must be the protection of society. Do our existing penal institutions accomplish this purpose, or have our prisons failed in providing society with the protection it seeks?

Although, a shift of emphasis from large, isolated prisons to more of the smaller correctional type facilities has been innovated recently, it is evident that newer methods and a new concept of approach within the fabric of free society are needed to cope with criminal offenders. To confine and teach men to live in restricted environments where they wait for release may appear to be the ideal method of protecting society, but unfortunately, this is only a half-truth. This protection, apparently evident, will actually exist only during their incarceration. Too much effort seems to be spent on teaching inmates how to live and behave while in prison where they become less and less equipped to handle the responsibilities of freedom. Many leave prison less capable of functioning in the community than they were before they were locked up. This is due to a variety of reasons, among which is a lack of proper environments that can create or reinforce anti-social behavior patterns to the unwary and the wide gap currently existing between inmates and custodial staff. To this end, Mr. Faguy stated, after the Kingston riot, to reporters of "Break Through" magazine, published by ex-offenders and serving offenders under the auspices of the John Howard Society of Hamilton, Ontario, that working study groups are currently in operation staffed with highly qualified members and also top line staff from within the Canadian Penitentiary Service. Our Honourable Solicitor General himself stated the other day in an interview with reporters on Television, and I quote: "Too much money is spent on steel and concrete, and not enough on a rehabilitation program". He further added that our present system of penology is outmoded and that it would be cheaper to allow inmates to serve part of their sentence, (on parole and under close surveillance) in the community where they would support their family and pay taxes like any other citizen and maintain a useful role in society, instead of letting the taxpayers foot the bill for their upkeep behind bars.

In this age of scientific developments and achievements where men have already walked on the moon and are on the threshold to make their way to the stars, they must not be chained to the thinking of one hundred years ago; they must stop hoping that our 18th. century methods of penology will rehabilitate criminal offenders of today.

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TICKLE BOX®

by Ted Trogdon



"Nowadays you can't walk into a bank with a gun without somebody making a FEDERAL case out of it."

Between the bars Late Bullentin

Between the bars column (last item) INDICATED FRIEND Normie McCaude, late of Joyceville Institution was still on the loose. Some days ago our footloose inmate was apprehended in Buffalo and now claims in a court hearing he is an Irish citizen.

We know just how bright friend Normie is based on his past record but claiming to be an Irishman might not be a bad idea right now since he could be sent over to Ulster and give someone a hand to fight the good fight - on the side which appears best to McCaude.